

Two Transports Here With 6000 For Christmas

George Washington Loses in Close Race to Pier With the Liner Cedric

Met Santa Claus at Sea

Troops Were Visited by Jolly Yuletide Saint, Who Feared Delay in Arrival

Three airplanes flying for the Red Cross membership campaign left their route over Fifth Avenue yesterday afternoon, swept over the Hudson and, with the clear blue sky for a stage, performed for 6,000 returning soldiers coming up the river on two great transports, the George Washington and the Cedric.

The airplanes flew down so low that the men could have heard the motors whirring and it had been that hundreds of whistles on land and water were trying to outdo each other. As the fliers did the nose dip and the tail spin and the loop-the-loop, crowds on the piers in Manhattan and Hoboken shuddered for fear something would go wrong, but there were men on the George Washington who only laughed.

Served With Lufbery

They had done the same things over the German lines. Some of them were made prisoner, others were decorations and one of them was one of the few who are left who were in the fight with the immortal Lufbery. He was a Serbian cross, two Croix de Guerre and an American cross. His friends said he had others, but had misplaced them.

It was the first really clear day in a week that the city had to welcome its homeward bound heroes. Far down the bay early in the morning each ship sighted the others. The Cedric had a good-sized lead, but there was a race on to see which would get the welcome first. The Cedric docked in Manhattan nearly an hour before the George Washington. President Wilson's ship to France, was received at the army piers in Hoboken.

Not all of the men on the George Washington were on the decks to wave to the cheering crowds on the pier. There were 1,000 in the sick bay—ill or wounded. And the happiest sick people in the world. Men without arms, others without legs, laughed and tossed their heads when they were asked about their wounds. They just wanted the newspapermen to say something nice about Captain McCaully and Chaplain Boonheard, for it was these two who relieved them of the horrible thought that they'd have to go without a decent Christmas.

It wasn't the night before Christmas, as it really should have been, but last Sunday night, when the lights in the hospital were all out and all the patients were supposed to be asleep.

Have Yuletide at Sea

From far down the deck came the note, "Home, sweet home," and blinking their eyes those 1,000 wounded and sick men raised themselves up on their bunks and waited. A quartet, made up of men of the crew, entered the big room and sang Christmas carols, and when they reached all the lights went on and Santa Claus appeared.

"Here I am again, boys, and I haven't forgotten you," he said.

Then he passed down the rows of bunks, handing out cigarettes and candies and, most cherished of all, honorable discharges. They had been obtained from General Pershing before the ship sailed from Brest. By wireless they were O. K'd from Washington.

"There wasn't much of a chance with the snipers all around us," he said.

Other New York men aboard the ship were in uniform. Eugene, the re-supply company, 312th Infantry, of Bayonne, N. J.; Private Thomas J. Gammon, sanitary detachment, 310th Infantry, of Jersey City, N. J.; Private John Elchorn, 3d Battalion, headquarters, 308th Infantry, of 1219 Decatur Street, Brooklyn; Private Thomas E. O'Neill, Headquarters Battalion, 1st division, of 129 Pearl Street, Manhattan; Private Salvatore Caruso, Company G, 310th Infantry, of 652 Morris Avenue, The Bronx; Private Morris H. Levine, Company I, 611th Division, of 223 South Second Street, Brooklyn; Private John Carrao, Company K, 101st Infantry, of 4111 Third Avenue, and Private Charles Eber, Company C, 310th Infantry, of Jersey City.

3,818 on One Ship.

The George Washington carried 3,818 men. Within an hour after the ship docked the men were hustling off to camps, but stories were told that typify the sort of heroes the ship carried.

Take Henry C. Lewis, of Philadelphia. He was a lieutenant in the bombing squad of the 96th United States Aero Division and five months in a German prison camp. He was inclined to be a bit bashful in talking about himself, and was only after he was deluged with questions that he spoke. Word by word it was drawn from him that he was flying near Cologne one day when he ran into a German squadron and, after a thrilling combat, was brought down and taken to the prison camp at Landsut, in Bavaria.

"Two days after the armistice was signed, and the whole Bavarian government was in an uproar over a revolution, I took a chance and told the Socialist guard I wanted to beat it. He was one of the revolutionists for me. He put me on the shoulder and seemed pleased that I had asked him. 'Get a pair of crutches and make out you're wounded and I will get you out,' he told me.

"Under the rule that he was taking me to another camp I got safely over the Swiss border."

Then Lewis pointed to Lieutenant George Puryear, of Memphis, who he said, had had a real experience. He had, he was with the 56th Aero Squadron, and had just shot at a German plane which dropped to land, and he went down to see if he had actually downed it when he found he was on German soil and was captured. He was taken to the Rastatt prison from which he attempted to escape; then to Karlsruhe, where he was felled in another attempt at a getaway. He next was transferred to Landsut, where he was placed under solitary confinement, but he escaped here, too, but only to be captured again. He was then transferred to Villigen camp, from which he finally got away.

Swam Across Rhine

"There were two of us trying to get out," Lieutenant Puryear said. "The other fellow's name was Tilligree. We were just a step from what would have

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PEARLS DIAMONDS JEWELRY SILVER
CLOCKS WATCHES CHINA STATIONERY

been freedom when two sentries popped up at us with rifles. They challenged. I was in the lead, and I kept on going, because I didn't care much what happened. They both fired, but I wasn't hit. They challenged again, and when the shots came I had ducked into a ditch. The two sentries were fence, I ran for miles, it seemed, and then dove into the Rhine River, where I swam and landed safely in Switzerland.

"The Red Cross took care of me, and I must say the Swiss authorities were very kind."

Is Original Veteran

But maybe the hero of heroes on the ship was Edgar Rouilly, of New Orleans. He wore four decorations and some of his friends said he had others, but had misplaced them. The rush to get home when there was no more fighting to do. He was the first American in the United States to fight with the French army. When the French came to the aid of the British in August, 1914, he went over and was placed with the French Foreign Legion. Later he was transferred to the Lafayette Squadron, and with this flew for more than a year in Serbia and Albania. He was wounded three times, but received two Croix de Guerre, the Serbian Campaign Cross and the French Cross given to officers who picked Americans with the squadron.

Rouilly fought with such men as Lufbery, William Thaw, Rockwell and Captain Zinn. He was in dozens of combat almost daily in fact, and had officially bagged two enemy planes.

Among the troops were 2,000 of the Cyclone Division, made up of the 147th and 150th regiments, most of them from Indiana; also the Marine Guard of the U. S. S. Seattle, which acted as a guard of honor on his voyage to France with President Wilson. It consisted of 72 men, and was commanded by Major D. H. Miller and Lieutenant Pfeiffer.

Wounded and Gassed

Colonel Halsted Dorey, of Washington, was a passenger on the ship. He is a veteran of the Philippines and Cuba, and in France commanded the Fourth Infantry, 3d Division. Before crossing he was at Fort Jay, Governor's Island, and he was in command of the first of the 100,000 men who landed at St. Nazaire, France, and is awaiting embarkation orders for home.

Among the fighters on the Cedric were Corporal William Duncan, of 370 West 127th Street, who was with Company A of the 102d Engineers, and left hand was put out of commission on Oct. 18, when a piece of shrapnel ripped it from wrist to finger tips. He was among the forces which discovered a German tunnel at Belleair, said to have been built by German interests before the war and used as a refuge for German troops.

"This tunnel," said Duncan, was nearly four miles long, and well camouflaged. But we got on to its existence and we lost no time in literally smoking the Germans out. We threw in smoke bombs at the main entrance and by this smoke that went through the entire tunnel, we found two other entrances. These were surrounded and we drove the enemy out. There were about 4,000 hidden in their bake shops and kitchens. Some of the fellows said they discovered big vats in which they boiled the bodies of the dead and prepared the human fat for lubrication purposes, but you can't prove it by me.

Among the returning wounded fighters of the Cedric were Harold Coyne, of Buffalo; Corporal Frank Ludemann, of Brooklyn; Sergeant T. Godson, of Birmingham, Ala.; Corporal Arthur Neelin, of Brooklyn; T. J. Crawford, of this city; and Sergeant Krause, of Syracuse.

Tells of His Escape

Sergeant Sol Goldstein, Company G, 507th Infantry, of 12 West 118th Street, was gassed at Fismes, September 15. "A shell burst near me and I jumped into a shell hole," he said. "That was at 7:30 o'clock in the morning. But I stuck it out all day. In twelve hours my eyes began to swell. For six weeks afterward every organ in my body was affected. I guess it was a sort of shell shock."

Private Harry Laventhal, Company H, 310th Infantry, of 101 West 126th Street, was wounded by shrapnel in the right leg in the Argonne. Private Charles Johnson, Company E, 4th Infantry, of 2001 Fulton Street, Brooklyn, was shot in the left leg by a machine gun bullet. He was carrying a message to the front line.

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Marie Dressler Is Santa Claus To General Shanks

Red Cross Initiates Big Novelty in Introducing Feminine Kris Kringle in Celebration for Soldiers

Marie Dressler, wearing a white wig and garbed in a Santa Claus hood and suit, walked up to Major General David C. Shanks, commanding the Port of Embarkation, on the upper grade of Pier 4, Hoboken, yesterday afternoon, and, thrusting her hand into a great bag she carried over her back, pulled out a long pair of socks filled with candies and other goodies, which she put into his hand.

"You've helped a lot to get all our fighting men over to Europe," she said. Then she walked up to a little girl and presented her with a cornucopia and told her the same thing.

The idea is that yesterday afternoon the Red Cross gave a Christmas party to the army and navy forces attached to the Port of Embarkation, who helped to send 2,000,000 American fighters to France and are now welcoming them home again.

Soldiers of the medical detachment, the Motor Transport Corps, the Engineer Corps, the Signal and Aviation Corps, the Ordnance Corps, the fire and guard companies, men and women of the quartermaster corps, field clerks, civilian employees and sailors from transports joined in the frolic, to the number of 6,000.

Hot Coffee Served by Women

The pier was brilliant with flags of America and of the Allies and the ensign of the Army Transport Service. At the extreme east end of the pier a big Christmas tree, topped with lights and a star, was a great electrical lighted Santa Claus. As the various units marched onto the pier from the embarkation offices adjoining they were served with hot coffee and doughnuts by women of the Emergency Cantonment Service of the New York County Chapter of the American Red Cross. Port of Embarkation Band No. 2 played continuous music.

Brief speeches were made by Vice-Admiral Albert Gleaves, of the cruiser and transport force; Major General Shanks and Mrs. Santa Claus, none other than the famous Mary. You see, when the Red Cross thought the thing out it saw no reason why there shouldn't be a woman Santa Claus, there being women nearly everything else.

A real Christmas party, containing a pair of socks, a bar of chocolate and a package of cigarettes went to the men. The women got the cornucopia. "After all," said Mrs. E. E. Watson, director of personnel of the New York County Red Cross, who was in charge of the Red Cross party, "the gifts were simply an expression of the real thing, for we have appreciated so much what every one at the port has done to try to make things comfortable and cheerful for the last few moments ashore of our men."

The girls of the Quartermaster's Corps, led by Miss Cora L. Busson, sang a Christmas carol and the boy choir of the Paulist Fathers, led by Father Finn, sang several selections. There was also a recital by the American Saxophone Quartet.

The arrangements were under the general direction of the chaplain of the port, Major John T. Axton, and a committee comprising Chaplains L. B. Burkhalter, A. J. Caterlin and C. D. Cox. Not long ago they went out and chopped down the decorations that graced the pier in the Jersey woods. They got a thirty-four foot tree from the estate of Professor William C. Clark, of Columbia University, and a steam winch was borrowed from the U. S. S. Leviathan to hoist it to its proper place.

Commander George S. Stoddard, executive officer of the U. S. S. Kroenland, represented the navy at the party. The decorations were under the supervision of Lieutenant Eugene S. Heely and the electric lighting was managed by W. H. Stevens. Mrs. Watson, of the Red Cross, was assisted by Mrs. Helen Campbell, Mrs. D. C. Shanks, wife of the general; Mrs. McLane van Ingen, Miss van Ingen and Miss van Lennep, preparation of gifts; Miss Gertrude Freeman, finance; Miss K. Bache, decoration of the tree, and Mrs. A. X. Hall and H. S. Haskins, entertainment.

Homesick Soldiers to Head List for Return

PARIS, Dec. 20.—In order to learn what proportion of the American army in France wishes to return home immediately, what wishes to remain in France for a time and what intends to remain here indefinitely, the American army authorities are now distributing circulars to the troops.

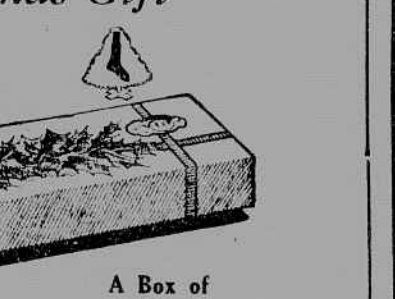
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The Ideal Christmas Gift



Holeproof Hosiery

Freedom from holes, darning and unnecessary expense accompanies your Xmas Gift when you give Holeproof Hosiery.

For Men—\$2.00 to \$6.00 the Half Dozen
For Women—\$3.00 to \$7.50 the Half Dozen

Brill Brothers

1456 Broadway Broadway at 49th Street 44 E. 14th St.
279 Broadway 2 Flatbush Ave., Brooklyn 47 Cortlandt St.
125th Street at 3d Avenue

All Brill Stores Open This Evening

27th Division at Corbie, 77th at Les Vignettes

War Department Announces Location of American Units November 28

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—The exact location of thirty-five combat divisions and six depot divisions of the American army in France, Germany and Luxembourg, as they were stationed on November 28 was announced to-day by the War Department. Changes in commanding officers were shown as follows:

First Division, Major General E. F. McClachin; 3d, Major General Robert L. Howze; 26th, Major General Harry C. Hale; 32d, Major General William Lassiter; 34th, Major General Charles D. Rhodes (from 42d); 42d, Major General Clement A. F. Flagg; 86th, Major General Samuel D. Sturgis; 86th, Major General Charles G. Ballou (from 22d); 90th, Major General Leroy S. Lyon (from 31st); 92d, Major General Charles H. Martin (from 80th); The 31st, 38th, 84th and 87th divisions are temporarily without regularly detailed commanders. Following are the locations:

Regulars

First Division, Canach, Luxembourg; 2d, Modernach, Luxembourg; 3d, Reichen, Luxembourg; 4th, Hayange, Germany; 5th, Longuey, France; 6th, Ancerville, and 7th, Evreux.

National Guard

Twenty-sixth, Montigny-Le-Roi; 27th, Corbie; 28th, Heudicourt; 29th, Bourbonne-Les-Bains; 30th, Le Mans; 31st, Le Mans; 32d, Consoir, Luxembourg; 33d, Troyon; 34th, Le Mans; 35th, Consoir; 36th, Tronhoy; 37th, Oost-essebeke, Belgium; 38th, Le Mans; and 42d, Mersch, Luxembourg.

National Army

Seventy-seventh, Les Vignettes; 78th, Semur; 79th, Vacheraville; 80th, Ancy-de-Franc; 81st, Wassy; 82d, Prauthoy; 84th, Le Mans; 86th, Le Mans; 87th, Foulain; 88th, Lagny; 89th, Dampcourt; 90th, Marville; 91st, Denierghem, Belgium; and 92d, Marbach.

Depot Divisions

Forty-first, St. Aignan; 83d, Le Mans; 76th, St. Nazaire; 84th, Toul; 89th, St. Florent, and 40th, Revin.

Supreme Court Upholds Part of Seaman's Act

Sections Regulating Payment of Wages Are Declared Constitutional

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—In its first interpretation of the La Follette seamen's act, the Supreme Court, answering questions certified from the lower court, to-day declared constitutional the sections regulating the payment of wages to seamen by limiting its application to foreign vessels only while they are in American waters.

Under the act seamen are entitled to receive upon demand at every port, after the voyage has been started, one-half of the wages earned up to that time, the master's refusal to comply serving to release them from service. In deciding proceedings brought by Erik Sandberg and other seamen against the ship Talus, the Supreme Court upheld opinions of the Circuit Court of Appeals that in computing the amount that can be paid on the wages due advances made in foreign ports are to be taken into consideration.

Ellis O. Jones Discharged Man, but Not His Project, Is Declared To Be Sane

Ellis O. Jones, who announced a Bolshevik meeting in Central Park Friday, December 13, and issued a proclamation of debt cancellation, was discharged yesterday in the West Side police court, where he was arraigned on a charge of disorderly conduct.

The interval between his arrest and arraignment he spent in the psychiatric ward at Bellevue Hospital. Dr. Stephen P. Pewett, of that institution, wrote to Magistrate Ten Eyck that Jones was sane, but that his project was the most insane he had ever heard of.

William O'Shaughnessy, an Assistant District Attorney, told the court that Jones had suffered a nervous breakdown, and that his wife had promised to send him to a sanatorium if he were discharged.

Job Agents Agree To Get Places Free For War Veterans

Employment Association Will Waive Fees From Men Who Seek Work on Return From Battlefields

Members of the Metropolitan Employment Association, comprising nearly all of the licensed employment agencies in Greater New York, have resolved to waive all fees in a campaign to obtain jobs for discharged soldiers and sailors who apply to them for work. The association yesterday outlined its purpose in the following resolutions:

"In the hope of being able to repay with material means the service rendered to this country by those of our men who saw it to enter the army or navy, and because of the fact that the government has failed in a number of cases to so provide for these men as to enable them to maintain themselves pending such time as they have been successful in reestablishing themselves in industry, and because reports have come to us that there are thousands of them now to be discharged from the army and navy without arrangements being made for their obtaining remunerative employment prior to such discharge; therefore, be it resolved, That the Metropolitan Employment Association, through its members, offer the services of their respective offices in an effort to secure employment for those of our soldiers and sailors who may not be employed; and be it further

"Resolved, That the fee to which these offices are entitled by law be not charged to these men, and that the services of these offices be offered gratis to all soldiers and sailors who apply thereto."

Thirty-three agencies signed the resolution. The work will be centralized through these offices. The H. T. Hutchinson, 23 West Fifty-sixth Street; Mrs. E. B. Brinkley, 507 Fifth Avenue; Hoberg & Nielson, 885 Lexington Avenue; Lida A. Seely, 38 West Fifty-second Street; Charles E. Exchange Agency, 61 West Fifty-first Street; Chelsea Employment Agency, 423 Sixth Avenue; Knickerbocker Employment Agency, 626 Sixth Avenue; David & McDermott, 630 Sixth Avenue; Coleman & Rector, 601 Sixth Avenue; Lambert & Crew, 645 Sixth Avenue; London, 647 Sixth Avenue; Geneva, 639 Sixth Avenue; Walsh, 641 Sixth Avenue; Imperial, 635 Sixth Avenue; Liberty, 661 Sixth Avenue; Irwin, 629 Sixth Avenue; Ifer, 113 Sixth Avenue; Odell, 629 Sixth Avenue; Mrs. Jones, 682 Sixth Avenue; Grant (colored), 103 West 131st Street; Mrs. Cokin, 688 Sixth Avenue; Central Employment Agency, 640 Sixth Avenue; P. Wholm, 157 East Twenty-ninth Street; Tullie (colored), 2297 Seventh Avenue; Swedish Employment Agency, 624 Madison Avenue; American Employment Agency, 205 East Seventy-ninth Street; Scandinavian Employment Agency, 710 Lexington Avenue; Miss Isabel Shea, 30 East Forty-second Street; Carl B. Sampson, 723 Lexington Avenue; Miss Fitzgerald, 548 Fifth Avenue; J. A. Wood, 12 State Street; Mr. Rosenkrantz, 131 East Fourth Street; Mrs. C. G. Dunn, 624 Madison Avenue; Doherty's Hotel Employees' Reference Association, 601 Sixth Avenue.

In launching its campaign the association has appealed for the cooperation of employers.

The sixth new before Congress seeking to perpetuate the United States Employment Service will be opposed by the private agencies, which decided to open a systematic campaign among representatives in Congress, urging a public hearing on the measure. The agencies charge the government's emergency war employment machinery has been conducted in a wasteful and inefficient manner.

Community Service Units to Give Beds To 15,000 Soldiers

The New York War Camp Community Service announced yesterday that it is prepared to provide sleeping quarters for 15,000 men in the military service on leave in New York during the holidays. Besides the Hotel Earlinton, at 55 West Twenty-second Street, the service has made arrangements to shelter soldiers, sailors and marines in the following places: Trinity Church; Y. M. C. A., 222 Bowery; Trinity Place; Y. M. C. A., 222 Bowery;

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